

**Board of Youth Services  
Meeting Agenda  
December 9, 2015  
Whittemore Robbins House**

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Present: Linda Suzuki, Mary DeCoursey, Justine Bloch, Hannah Simon, Carlene Newell, Roblyn Anderson, Mike Ginns, Joan Axelrod, Lauren Boyle, Lisa Pedulla, Kristen Barnacle

11/4/15 Minutes Approved

**Directors Report: Linda Suzuki**

- Newsletter was mailed out.
- Facebook presence is growing. Hannah Simon has taken over these responsibilities and is doing a terrific job.
- The agency is working to shorten the waiting list. Only 12 children on the list this month. Staff turnover is a continual issue. Two new hires
- Town has employed a new Domestic Violence Specialist, Heather Hernandez. She has developed a new blog and is making great inroads with the community.

**Thanksgiving Baskets:**

- Mary DeCoursey did an excellent job with Thanksgiving Basket coordination. Over \$5500 in gift cards donated and much more fresh food donated this year through Food Link.
- Fresh flowers were donated which added a warm, inviting touch.
- Food pantry staff was incredibly welcoming in offering their site for the second year in a row.

**Holiday Help:**

- A signup is being emailed for Board members to sign up for volunteer time for Holiday Help. Assistance is needed in distributing gifts.

**Committees:**

Outreach, Fundraising & Programming committees broke into groups to identify top strategies for moving forward.

- Outreach: Designing a Board of Youth Services logo and will look into revising the mission statement
- Programs: Set up table and have more of a presence at town forums, events and lectures.
- Fundraising: Looking to identify new fundraising sources.

**Parent Forum:** January 28<sup>th</sup> "You are not alone" Mental Health and Suicide Awareness Night, Arlington High School: 7:30pm

Adjourn